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IDENTICAL LETTERS DATED 5 DECEMBER 1999 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL AND TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you that, between 23 and 30 November 1999, United States and British aircraft, taking off from their bases in Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Turkey, continued to violate Iraqi airspace, carrying out acts of aggression, observation and provocation, as specified in the list annexed hereto.

I should be grateful if you would intervene with the United States of America, the United Kingdom and the States which are providing them with facilities in order to commit these acts of aggression, namely, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Turkey, with a view to halting such acts, which endanger the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Iraq and constitute blatant violations of the Charter of the United Nations and the rules of international law.

These acts continue to cause hundreds of deaths and injuries among the civilian population and material damage to private and public property. The logistical support provided by Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Turkey to the Americans and the British makes them essential accomplices in the aggression against Iraq, and they therefore bear international responsibility for these acts. The Republic of Iraq reaffirms its right to demand reparation for the harm inflicted on the Iraqi people through the aforementioned acts. Turkey bears further responsibility for involvement in this aggression, its aircraft having violated Iraqi airspace on 29 November 1999, as specified in the annex.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Saeed H. HASAN
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex

Details of violations of Iraq's airspace by United States and British aircraft and damage caused, 23-30 November 1999

1. In the northern region 54 sorties were flown at speeds of 720 to 780 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 6,000 to 12,000 metres. Details are given below:

(a) At 1133 hours on 25 November 1999 United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Turkish territory violated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They were supported by an AWACS command and control aircraft from inside Turkish airspace. The aircraft carried out 16 sorties and overflew the Mosul, Sinjar, Rawanduz, Dohuk, Tall Afar, Irbil, Amadiyah, Aqrah, Ayn Zalah and Baibo areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1345 hours, drove them off.

(b) At 1200 hours on 27 November 1999 United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Turkish territory violated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They were supported by an AWACS command and control aircraft from inside Turkish airspace. The aircraft carried out 16 sorties and overflew the Mosul, Sinjar, Dohuk, Tall Afar, Irbil, Amadiyah, Aqrah and Baibo areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1500 hours, drove them off.

(c) At 1105 hours on 28 November 1999 United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Turkish territory violated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They were supported by an AWACS command and control aircraft from inside Turkish airspace. The aircraft carried out 18 sorties and overflew the Mosul, Irbil, Dohuk, Tall Afar, Ayn Zalah, Amadiyah, Zakho and Baibo areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1440 hours, drove them off.

(d) At 1230 hours on 28 November 1999 United States and British aircraft attacked a residential area in the Masarif quarter of Mosul, in Ninawa Governorate, firing HARM missiles on Zanabiq elementary school and injuring 10 civilians, including four children. The school was damaged, as were a number of residential buildings and two civilian vehicles.

(e) At 1305 hours on 29 November 1999 Turkish aircraft violated Iraqi airspace in the northern region, carrying out four sorties. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1355 hours, drove them off.

2. In the southern region 229 sorties were flown at speeds of 720 to 780 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 9,000 to 13,000 metres. Details are given below:

(a) At 1735 hours on 26 November 1999 United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16 and EA-6B aircraft coming from Saudi territory violated Iraqi airspace in the southern region. They were supported by an AWACS command and control aircraft from inside Saudi airspace. The aircraft carried out 11

sorties and overflew the Nasiriyah, Salman, Jalibah, Ushbayjah and Busayyah areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1930 hours, drove them off.

(b) At 1835 hours on 27 November 1999 United States and British F-14, F-15, F-18, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Saudi territory violated Iraqi airspace in the southern region. The aircraft carried out 52 sorties, 34 from Saudi territory, supported by an AWACS command and control aircraft from inside Saudi airspace, and 18 from Kuwaiti territory, supported by an E-2C command and control aircraft from inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Salman, Busayyah, Samawah, Shinafiyah, Rumaythah, Lasaf, Diwaniyah, Qal'at Sukkar, Hayy, Taqtaqanah, Najaf, Basra, Amarah, Nasiriyah and Nu'maniyah south areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 2035 hours, drove them off.

(c) At 1720 hours on 28 November 1999 United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, F-18, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory violated Iraqi airspace in the southern region. The aircraft carried out 44 sorties, 28 from Saudi territory, supported by an AWACS command and control aircraft from inside Saudi airspace, and 16 from Kuwaiti territory, supported by an E-2C command and control aircraft from inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Nasiriyah, Samawah, Jalibah, Artawi, Busayyah, Ushbayjah, Afak, Qurnah, Taqtaqanah, Qal'at Sukkar, Qal'at Salih, Hayy, Kut, Rahhaliyah, Nu'maniyah, Ukhaydir, Diwaniyah, Shinafiyah, Basra, Rifa'i, Shatrah and Amarah areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1930 hours, drove them off.

(d) At 2355 hours on 28 November 1999 United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, F-18, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory violated Iraqi airspace in the southern region. The aircraft carried out 70 sorties, 50 from Saudi territory, supported by an AWACS command and control aircraft from inside Saudi airspace, and 20 from Kuwaiti territory, supported by an E-2C command and control aircraft from inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Nasiriyah, Samawah, Diwaniyah, Salman, Amarah, Najaf, Basra, Jalibah, Afak, Ushbayjah and Lasaf areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1935 hours on 29 November 1999, drove them off.

(e) At 1800 hours on 30 November 1999 United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, F-18, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory violated Iraqi airspace in the southern region. The aircraft carried out 52 sorties, 24 from Saudi territory, supported by an AWACS command and control aircraft from inside Saudi airspace, and 28 from Kuwaiti territory, supported by an E-2C command and control aircraft from inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Nasiriyah, Salman, Samawah, Basra, Diwaniyah, Hashimiyah east, Ali al-Sharqi, Amarah, Afak, Hayy, Ali al-Gharbi, Taqtaqanah and Nukhayb east areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 2020 hours, drove them off.